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Work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention

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Report of the Executive Director

Summary

The present report provides an integrated overview of the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention during 2000 and a preview of its future tasks. It identifies the latest trends in the main challenges facing the international community in crime and justice, the global responses under way and the role of the Centre in facilitating those responses.

Main accomplishments during the past year include: (a) the adoption and signing of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols; (b) the establishment of a mandate to begin work towards an international legal instrument against corruption; (c) the setting of clear targets and commitments in the "Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-First Century"; (d) the focusing of work on main priorities and objectives, as reflected in the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003; and (e) the progress made in implementing the global programmes against transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings and corruption. The Centre is currently implementing 13 technical cooperation projects and is preparing several more projects, mostly within the framework of the three global programmes. The Centre received US$ 3 million in voluntary contributions for its activities and expanded its donor base. Its web site has become a major tool for the dissemination of

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information. A new recurrent publication, *Forum on Crime and Society*, has been launched. The Centre has also continued its activities regarding standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, the prevention of terrorism and the servicing of the global policy forum.

The major tasks before the Centre are: (a) facilitating the ratification and entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols; (b) supporting the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption; (c) contributing to achieving the specific targets set by the Vienna Declaration; (d) delivering technical assistance in these priority areas, especially through the global programmes against transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings and corruption; and (e) developing pertinent initiatives for responding to new global crime threats, such as cyber-crime. The Centre will continue its efforts to become a centre of expertise, specializing in the development and transfer of knowledge.

Reinforced support of the member States and the provision of increased resources are essential prerequisites for enabling the Centre to fulfil its tasks. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice may wish to examine such options as exercising restraint in the creation of new mandates and revising periodic reporting obligations established in the 1990s.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report on the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention covers the period from February 2000 to March 2001. It provides an integrated overview of the work of the Centre during the past year and a preview of its future work. Like previous reports on the subject, the current report consolidates in one document several reporting obligations to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

II. Major trends, developments and future perspectives

A. Globalization and the changing nature of crime

2. Criminal justice systems, which were geared to deal primarily with domestic crime, are being challenged by new forms of criminal activity, exacerbated by the increased virtual and real geographical mobility.

3. Like legitimate commerce, organized crime has expanded and become more international. In the past, organized criminal groups used to operate primarily on certain local markets. Even the most notorious transnational groups tended to operate in a limited number of countries. Many newly emerging criminal groups are shifting their operations to any place in the world where the prospects for quick profits look good and the risks are low. They tend to consist of loosely structured, non-hierarchical, highly flexible associations of specialists. They link up easily with other groups or individuals in their own country or abroad.

4. People's desire to migrate, whether for economic or other reasons, has created a market that is increasingly being exploited by organized criminal groups. Individuals and specialized groups in many countries are working together to recruit potential migrants, falsify documents, bribe officials and make other preparations for the smuggling of migrants. In June 2000, 58 migrants died in the back of a truck while being smuggled into the British port of Dover; that tragic event illustrates how smuggled migrants are treated as commodities and the degrading and dangerous conditions under which they are smuggled. Such persons are often victimized further on their arrival in a foreign country, being forced to work as prostitutes or labourers to repay the excessive costs of having been smuggled.

5. Communication and computer technologies, which foster the legitimate aspects of globalization, are misused to commit serious criminal offences. Offenders abuse the technologies to commit both traditional offences, such as fraud, and entirely new ones, such as creating and sending computer viruses. Recent computer viruses have caused damage amounting to billions of dollars. The ease with which offenders can operate across national borders and the complexity of prosecuting such offences make such cyber-crime a serious global concern. Such crime poses a major threat to the building of "digital bridges" through the use of computer and telecommunication technologies. Controlling cyber-crime should be an integral part of the global agenda for sustainable development.

6. Transnational organized crime affects both developed and developing countries. The booming market for illicit commodities and services continues to attract both domestic and foreign organized criminal groups. The accumulation of proceeds derived from criminal activities, together with money-laundering, is increasingly having an adverse effect on legitimate business, threatening to destabilize economies.

7. The negative impact of crime may be greater in developing countries than in developed countries. Whereas conventional crime and drug abuse appear to be levelling off in countries in North America and western Europe, that is not the case in many developing countries. Many developing countries seem to be caught in a vicious circle in which poverty and its social effects, such as crime and corruption, impede development. Though multinational companies based in developed countries are often perceived to be those most often involved in bribery, developing countries carry the brunt of the negative consequences of such activity. Several studies have substantiated the negative impact of organized crime and corruption on sustainable development. In several countries, there is an increasing danger that organized crime and corrupt politics will become widespread.

8. Precisely because of their global dimensions and impact, crime-related problems are increasingly being recognized by Governments not simply as domestic issues but as matters concerning international security. Expeditious international collaboration has been recognized as the key to effective crime control; however, criminal justice systems have been generally slow in adjusting their concepts, procedures and practices to deal with the new realities and dimensions of crime. The long-standing tradition of handling crime as a domestic affair continues to inhibit the introduction of the necessary changes. Procedures for extraditing offenders are often not only restrictive in theory but utterly dysfunctional in practice. Existing arrangements for collaboration are often of little use to practitioners.

9. Development agencies need to appreciate and take fully into account the fact that credible law enforcement, justice administration and anti-corruption efforts are essential to sustainable development. In the face of the threats posed by transnational crime, it is vital to supplement domestic arrangements with effective collaboration involving counterparts in other countries and to enable criminal justice officials to give more emphasis to such collaboration. The objective should be to ensure that criminal justice systems are both capable of and committed to responding speedily and adequately to the need for collaboration. Criminal justice cooperation should become a common possession of all nations, and its costs should be proportionately shared by the stakeholders.

B. Responding to the global challenges

10. There have been encouraging developments showing increased awareness of the global challenges posed by crime and increased determination to confront those challenges. The most significant development has been the signing of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime by 123 States and the European Community at a high-level political signing conference held in Palermo, Italy, from 12 to 15 December 2000. Other major developments include: the decision to begin work on the drafting of an international legal instrument against corruption; the setting of clear targets and commitments for the implementation of the "Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century" (General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex); and the increased readiness of Member States to support the work of the Centre, through policy direction and voluntary financial contributions.

11. For its part the Centre has, during the past year, undertaken several measures to provide assistance to the international community and individual Member States and to improve its operational efficiency. The most significant of those measures have been the substantive assistance for the development of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols; the organization of the high-level political signing conference in Palermo in December 2000; the holding of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in Vienna in April 2000; and the progress made in implementing the global programmes against transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings and corruption.

12. The global programmes and the work of the Centre in supporting the development and ratification of international legal instruments currently constitute the two main pillars of its operations. Both areas reflect the Centre's transition to full-scale operational work, effectively backed up by integral analysis and policy development. They also reflect the reinforcement during the past year of the process, begun two years ago, of repositioning the Centre for responding more effectively to new global challenges in crime and justice. The process of focusing its programme of work and scarce resources on a few main priorities and objectives has been concluded. That focus is now fully embodied in the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000, and in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003, which the Assembly will consider for approval later in 2001.

13. The Centre has also continued to strengthen its capacity to deliver the refocused programme of work and improve its operational and administrative efficiency. Efforts have been made to increase the level of expertise and to improve the gender balance and geographical representation of the staff members of the Centre. Those efforts have been facilitated through voluntary contributions. The past year has also witnessed a small but discernable expansion in the

donor base of the Centre, although it did not result in an increase in total voluntary contributions.

14. The Centre further pursued greater operational synergy with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and other relevant partners. The number of field offices of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention were increased to seven by converting UNDCP offices in Bangkok, Brasilia, Cairo and La Paz. Collaboration is also being pursued with the network of institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and with several other intergovernmental and non-governmental partners.

15. The Centre continued to benefit from the joint provision of services within the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, for example, in servicing intergovernmental bodies, fund-raising, external relations and administration, with the support of the United Nations Office at Vienna, particularly the Division of Administrative and Common Services. The forthcoming outcome of the review conducted in February 2000 of the implementation by the Centre of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, made in 1997 and 1998, will contribute further to improving efficiency in programme management and delivery.

C. Perspectives for the year ahead and beyond

16. The tasks ahead are detailed in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003 and the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century.

17. The five foremost tasks of the Centre are as follows: (a) facilitating the ratification and entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols; (b) supporting the preparatory work for the development of an international legal instrument against corruption; (c) contributing to achieving the specific targets set in the Vienna Declaration; (d) delivering technical assistance in those priority areas, especially through the global programmes against transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings and corruption; and (e) developing pertinent initiatives for responding to new global crime threats, such as cyber-crime, including the development of appropriate international legal instruments. Integral requisite elements of work in all these areas will be data analysis, policy and strategy development and dissemination of knowledge, expertise and best practices, both through the print media and electronically, through the web site. Careful attention will be given to integrating gender aspects in all areas of work and to take full advantage of modern technologies. Coordination and close cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network will be pursued vigorously.

18. The progress made in the past few years bodes well for the future. The adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols is evidence of a firm commitment by States to cooperate with one another in carrying out urgently needed work in those areas. The new legal instruments should be put into practice through the strengthened political commitment of all countries. The main tasks of the Centre in that regard will be to assist States in incorporating the new legal instruments in their national systems; assist States, upon request, with domestic institution-building and capacity-building; and assist signatory States in strengthening their capacity for cooperation.

19. For its part, the Centre must continue to strengthen its newly defined substantive role. It must continue its efforts to become a centre of expertise, specializing in the development and transfer of knowledge.

20. Of paramount importance in this respect will be further increases in the resources available to the Centre, both from the regular budget of the United Nations and from voluntary contributions. Whereas it is not under the purview of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to determine regular budget allocations, ensuring the mobilization of adequate resources is one of its functions. The effective accomplishment of the significantly increased responsibilities of the Centre is contingent upon commensurate increases in the resources available to it. The Centre will continue to actively pursue the mobilization of voluntary contributions to support its technical assistance and field projects.

21. Given the fact that a complex set of major tasks of the Centre for the near future have been established and in view of the scarcity of resources, the Commission may wish to examine such options as exercising restraint in creating new mandates and ensuring that new mandates are accompanied by the identification of the additional resources required to carry them out. It may also consider revising the existing set of obligations of the Centre to report periodically to the Commission, which were established in the first half of the 1990s, when the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme had a different focus.

22. As it forges ahead in its work, the Centre will regularly review and, as appropriate, modify its internal structures and managerial arrangements. The goal will be for the Centre to function as a dynamic organization that takes advantage of constructive feedback and quickly adapts to evolving needs and management techniques.

23. The Centre is committed to pursuing excellence in its performance. It awaits the opportunity to report to the Commission, at its eleventh session, on progress made in meeting the challenging but exciting tasks ahead. It also expects that the members of the Commission will provide it with clear policy direction, strong political support and the required level of resources.

III. Ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols

A. Adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols

24. The Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime completed its finalization of the text of the draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime at its tenth session, held in Vienna from 17 to 28 July 2000. At its eleventh session, held in Vienna from 2 to 28 October 2000, it finalized the texts of the draft Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and of the draft Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. In its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, the General Assembly adopted the Convention and its two protocols and opened them for signature at the High-level Political Signing Conference to be held in Palermo from 12 to 15 December 2000.

25. At its twelfth session, held in Vienna from 26 February to 2 March 2001, the Ad Hoc Committee completed its work on the draft Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and approved it for adoption by the General Assembly.

26. The High-level Political Signing Conference in Palermo was attended by representatives of 149 States. Sixteen States were represented by heads of State or Government, while most other delegations were headed by ministers of foreign affairs, ministers of justice or ministers of the interior. At the Palermo Conference, 123 States and the European Community signed the Convention. The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons was signed by 80 States and the European Community. The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants was signed by 77 States and the European Community. The Convention and the protocols thus became the legal instruments with the highest number of signatories upon being opened for signature; and that feat was accomplished only weeks after those instruments had been adopted by the General Assembly. Since the Palermo Conference, one more State has signed the two protocols. The Convention and its protocols will remain open for signature at United Nations Headquarters until 12 December 2002.

27. The Convention represents a milestone in international cooperation against transnational organized crime. It carries a powerful political message and signals the resolve of the international community to fight that global menace effectively. Consensus on the texts of the draft Convention and the draft protocols was achieved in an unprecedentedly short period of time. Those legal instruments eliminate differences in cultural viewpoints, establish common

themes and standards and provide a structure and several tools for cooperative action among Governments and, in particular, law enforcement agencies. They also establish the protection of victims and the prevention of transnational organized crime as cornerstones of collective international work. Moreover, they contain provisions that enhance capacity-building, technical assistance and the sharing of information among States parties.

28. Many representatives of States at the Palermo Conference stressed the importance of taking concrete steps to achieve the objectives and goals enshrined in the Convention and its protocols. They emphasized the vital role that the Centre for International Crime Prevention should play in that regard, as a strong institution with the relevant legal authority and technical capability and other tools to ensure their effectiveness. Many representatives indicated their intention, as called for by the General Assembly and the Convention, to contribute to enabling the Centre to respond to requests of developing countries and countries with economies in transition for assistance in ratifying and implementing the Convention and its protocols.

29. The Centre has already initiated several measures for promoting the expeditious entry into force of the new instruments, while many others are being formulated. For example, regional and subregional seminars will be organized to serve as a forum for discussing requirements and steps for ratification. The seminars will also help to identify the needs in terms of assistance prior to ratification and to explore ways to ensure their availability. It is anticipated that the Centre will work with individual Governments requesting its assistance, especially in preparing for the necessary changes in national legislation.

30. "Pre-ratification assistance" may be defined as assistance in meeting the immediate and specific requirements of States for undertaking the necessary steps leading to the ratification of the Convention and, as the case may be, one or more of its protocols. Its main orientation is to put in place the necessary legislative and other measures for satisfying the basic compliance requirements so that the ratification instruments can be adopted by the competent legislative bodies. In that sense, "pre-ratification assistance" is distinct from technical cooperation for the implementation of the new instruments. Both respond to the expressed concern that developing countries require assistance to fulfil the obligations emanating from the new instruments.

31. The ability of the Centre to provide "pre-ratification" and implementation assistance will, by necessity, be contingent upon the availability of voluntary contributions for that purpose. Some Governments have already pledged or made voluntary contributions to the special account established for that purpose. For example, the Italian Senate has adopted a new law according to which the Government of Italy would contribute to the United Nations 25 per cent of the value of assets confiscated in cases involving organized crime.

B. Consideration of a legal instrument on illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives

32. In its resolution 54/127 of 17 December 1999, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene an expert group to prepare a study on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives and their use for criminal purposes. It also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the results of the study and directed the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, following the completion of the study, to consider the possible elaboration of an international instrument on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives. A voluntary contribution for the study was made by the Government of the United States of America. Regional groups were requested to nominate experts to be invited to the meeting and 17 experts were nominated.

33. At its first meeting, held in Vienna from 12 to 16 March 2001, the expert group on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives and their use for criminal purposes conducted a preliminary examination of the information assembled by its members and the Secretariat. Resources available to the expert group were not sufficient to cover the travel costs of the experts and the cost of interpretation; as a result, nine of the experts were unable to attend the meeting. The expert group expressed its concern that lack of resources could adversely affect its future work and its ability to fulfil its mandate. To collect relevant information from countries not represented in the

expert group, the members of the expert group developed a survey and requested the Secretariat to distribute it as soon as possible. The expert group agreed that each of its members should, in addition to analysing responses to the questionnaire, carry out research on such important topics as the marking and tracing of explosives, relevant aspects of transnationality, domestic legislation and existing international and regional instruments and a survey of needs and resources in the areas of legal and technical assistance. It also agreed that it should hold another meeting to finalize the study once the responses to the questionnaire became available. The Secretary-General is to report, as early as possible, to the Commission on the results of the study, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/127.

C. Contribution of intergovernmental organizations to firearms issues

34. In its resolution 1998/18 of 28 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council invited the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) and other intergovernmental organizations to provide the Secretary-General with views and proposals regarding their possible contributions towards the development and implementation of technical cooperation to strengthen the ability of law enforcement officials to combat illicit trafficking in and criminal misuse of firearms. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Commission. The Secretariat sought the views of Interpol, the Customs Co-operation Council (also called the World Customs Organization) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

35. Interpol expressed its interest in becoming an integral part of the implementation of the Convention and, once adopted, the Firearms Protocol. It stated that it was committed to assisting its member States in developing strategies and information systems to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms. In 1990, it had implemented the Interpol Weapons and Explosives Tracking System. At an advisory group meeting held in Valbandon, Croatia, from 30 November to 2 December 1999 Interpol identified strategic law enforcement needs and began developing the following law enforcement tools: the networking of existing national databases into a worldwide database on stolen firearms; the capability of electronically tracing firearms worldwide; an electronic reference library on firearms and ammunition; and an operational electronic bulletin board for crimes involving firearms, with embedded analytical tools.

36. The World Customs Organization indicated that it considered developing and implementing technical assistance cooperation to strengthen customs enforcement to be priorities. As one of its enforcement action plans, it was implementing a firearms programme that included awareness-raising activities, contributions to other international forums, the organization of a working group and promoting the exchange and analysis of information. The World Customs Organization had also established 10 regional intelligence liaison offices to facilitate the sharing of information and the provision of input to its central database.

37. The Conflict Prevention Centre of OSCE indicated its interest in firearms control in accordance with the OSCE mandate in security, which included controlling the spread of small arms and light weapons. OSCE discussed the subject in the framework of its Forum for Security Cooperation, which approved a document committing States to principles and measures on small arms and light weapons, including elements dealing with both law enforcement and security matters. OSCE viewed the draft Firearms Protocol as being capable of becoming a useful element in the overall effort to stop the spread of small arms and light weapons.

IV. Initiation of an international legal instrument against corruption and other measures to combat corruption

A. Steps towards the development of an international legal instrument against corruption

38. The General Assembly, in its resolution 55/61 of 4 December 2000, decided to begin the elaboration of an international legal instrument against corruption; requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report

analysing all relevant international legal instruments, other documents and recommendations on corruption; and requested the Commission, at its tenth session, to review the report and to provide recommendations and guidance as to future work on the development of a legal instrument against corruption. The report of the Secretary-General on the analysis of existing international instruments and recommendations against corruption is contained in document E/CN.15/2001/3.

39. In its resolution 55/61, the General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to convene an intergovernmental open-ended expert group to prepare draft terms of reference for the negotiation of the future legal instrument against corruption. The expert group meeting is to be held in Vienna from 30 July to 3 August 2001. Pursuant to Assembly resolution 55/188 of 20 December 2000, entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin", the expert group will be invited to examine the question of illegally transferred funds and the repatriation of such funds to their countries of origin.

B. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 54/128, on action against corruption

40. The General Assembly, in its resolution 54/128 of 17 December 1999, entitled "Action against corruption", requested the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to report to the Commission on the progress made in implementing that resolution and the steps taken by Member States to combat corruption and its proceeds; invited Member States to examine the adequacy of their domestic legal regimes in terms of guarding against corruption and providing for forfeiture of the proceeds of corruption.

41. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/128, the Secretariat sent a note verbale to States, seeking information on steps taken to implement the provisions of the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions (General Assembly resolution 51/191, annex). As at 10 March 2001, the Governments of the following 22 States had replied to the note verbale: Argentina, Belarus, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia. Most of the Governments indicated that their legislation provided for the criminalization of corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions. Only some Governments affirmed that criminalization of corruption and bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions was covered by their national legislation. A number of Governments indicated the existence of specific legislation penalizing illicit enrichment of public officials. No Government indicated the existence of specific legal provisions establishing corporate criminal liability for acts of corruption or bribery. A number of Governments provided detailed information on existing measures, such as accounting standards and practices, to ensure transparency of national and international commercial transactions. Many Governments indicated that bank secrecy provisions did not impede or hinder criminal investigations or other legal proceedings relating to corruption, bribery, money-laundering or other illicit activities in international commercial transactions. Some Governments noted that they had, or were preparing, a set of instruments, for example bilateral or multilateral treaties, as well as cooperation agreements between judicial authorities in other States, for cooperation in criminal matters, including the fight against corruption.

42. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/128, the activities of the Centre for developing an effective global programme for providing technical assistance to fight corruption are described in paragraphs 45-60 below.

43. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/128, the revision of the manual on practical measures against corruption[1] has been completed and the revised manual is to be published shortly. The revised manual draws on the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels, held in Paris from 30 March to 1 April 1999, and the conclusions of the first Global Forum on Fighting Corruption, held in Washington, D.C., from 24 to 26 February 1999. It contains new chapters on public education and awareness-raising, anti-corruption legislation, repatriation of illegal assets and monitoring and evaluation.

44. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/128, the Global Programme against Money-Laundering of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention held a forum in the Cayman Islands on 30 and 31 March 2000 to obtain the commitment of financial centres to follow internationally accepted standards of financial regulation and measures against money-laundering. As at 15 March 2001, financial centres in the following countries and territories have entered into a commitment at the ministerial level: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cook Islands, Cyprus, Dominica, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guernsey Islands, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Montserrat, Nauru, Netherlands Antilles, Niue, Palau, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Seychelles, Trinidad and Tobago and Turks and Caicos Islands. A framework for the implementation of the technical assistance programme of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering is being developed to meet the needs of the requesting jurisdictions. Increased attention is being given to the link between money-laundering schemes, under-regulated financial systems and corruption.

V. Global programmes

A. Global programme against corruption

45. Considerable progress has been made in refining, implementing and raising awareness about the global programme against corruption, launched in March 1999, in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Research Institute (UNICRI). The following facts are indicative of the progress made: (a) the global programme has received firm endorsement by States, including through the Vienna Declaration, several General Assembly resolutions and the decision to initiate the development of an international legal instrument against corruption; (b) the number of States that have formally or informally requested to join the programme has increased from 5 to 20; (c) the number of active pilot countries has increased from three to six, with several more being finalized; and (d) the substantive expertise, dissemination of information and visibility of the programme have been increased, especially through the organization of two international and one national anti-corruption workshops, the launching of an anti-corruption kit on a web page, participation and the presentation of papers at international conferences.

46. The global programme against corruption consists of an integrated package involving assessment, technical cooperation, evaluation and the formulation of international strategies and instruments to combat corruption. It will entail systematic "action learning" to identify best practices and lessons learned through pilot projects, programme execution and monitoring using periodic country assessments and the global study on corruption trends. Attention will be given equally to institution-building, prevention, awareness-raising and education, enforcement, anti-corruption legislation, judicial integrity and repatriation of illegal assets, as well as monitoring and evaluation.

47. A global study on corruption trends is being initiated to analyse and forecast trends, types, levels, costs and causes of corruption around the globe, to identify effective policies and best practices used in the fight against corruption and to assess public awareness. It will be carried out in close cooperation with relevant institutions and will be linked with other efforts in the fields of justice and the prevention of crime, especially organized crime, trafficking in human beings, global illicit markets and money-laundering.

48. The anti-corruption kit describes some 30 tools in the core areas of the global programme against corruption mentioned in paragraph 47 above. Each tool will be supplemented through case studies of country experiences. The kit will be disseminated both in hard copy and electronically (via the web page of the global programme).

49. The web page of the global programme against corruption is a component of the web site of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (www.ODCCP.org/corruption.html) and is being continuously updated. The web page will be used to disseminate detailed information on the programme, especially lessons learned, updates on the findings of the global study on corruption trends and the results of perception surveys from country assessments.

50. It is envisaged that, during its initial stage, the global programme against corruption will involve pilot projects in a few selected countries in all regions of the world. Six countries whose authorities have requested assistance in the design and implementation of an

integrated anti-corruption programme have been selected for pilot projects: Benin, Hungary, Lebanon, Nigeria, Romania and South Africa. Pilot projects in those countries are currently at different stages of formulation and implementation. Decisions on pilot projects in additional countries are being reached on the basis of project concepts and feasibility assessments, in close consultation with the authorities of the countries concerned. Those countries currently include Colombia, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Uganda.

51. In Benin, a proposal for a project entitled "Elaboration of an anti-corruption strategy in Benin" has been developed within the framework of the global programme against corruption and approved by the Minister of Justice. Funding for the project has been provided by the Government of France. Preliminary project activities are being initiated, such as the organization of coordination workshops and the review of anti-corruption legislation.

52. In Hungary, a project entitled "Assessment of corruption in Hungary" is currently being implemented. Funded by the Government of the United States, the project is aimed at assisting the Government of Hungary in its efforts to prevent, detect and fight corruption and promote transparency, accountability and the rule of law. With guidance from UNICRI, the Government of Hungary selected a company to conduct an independent country assessment. The results of the assessment were presented at a national workshop in May 2000 and were to be considered at an action planning expert meeting to be held in March 2001. The Government also organized an international conference in Vienna in October 2000 and presented details on the implementation of the project. In early 2001, the Government passed a decree, committing itself to improving integrity in public life and to developing effective criminal law for the prosecution of corruption.

53. In Lebanon, a project entitled "National anti-corruption strategy and plan in Lebanon" was launched in March 1999 with funding from the Government of the United States. At the request of the Government of Lebanon, the project was placed under the global programme against corruption. In the first phase of the project, the focus was on improving anti-corruption legislation and training workshops for parliamentarians, magistrates and senior public officials. In the second phase, launched in June 2000, the focus is on establishing a national integrity steering committee, conducting an independent country assessment and implementing and monitoring a national integrity strategy and an anti-corruption action plan. Within the framework of the global programme, assistance is being provided in establishing an independent anti-corruption agency, introducing codes of conduct for ministers and public servants and strengthening integrity in the judiciary.

54. In Nigeria, preparatory missions were undertaken and agreement has been reached to develop a project concept on strengthening the integrity of the judiciary, with the active involvement of the Chief Justice and the Supreme Court. A similar project concept for prosecutors is also being explored, at the request of the Attorney General. Substantive assistance was provided for a workshop for senior policy makers. The Government has also sought assistance in recovering assets taken by former regimes; the possibility of providing such assistance is being explored within the Global Framework of the Programme against Money-Laundering.

55. A project in Romania entitled "Institution-building and strengthening of corruption control capacity in Romania" has been concluded and evaluated. The project was funded by the Governments of Greece and the United States and by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Project activities during the past year included training seminars in various aspects of anti-corruption work, such as drafting laws, task force organization, investigative techniques and inter-institutional cooperation; study tours for officials from various institutions; enactment of new anti-corruption laws; public awareness campaigns; mobilization of non-governmental organizations; and assessment and identification of further measures required. An independent evaluation of the project, conducted in December 2000, concluded that the project strengthened government efforts to fight corruption. The Government has requested the initiation of a follow-up project to focus on strengthening integrity in the judiciary and raising public awareness.

56. In South Africa, a project document entitled "Support to the national anti-corruption programme" has recently been signed with the Government and implementation of the project has begun. That was

preceded by several preparatory measures, including needs assessment missions and a round table of experts, to identify the most effective anti-corruption measures.

57. In Colombia, a project being developed in close consultation with government officials is aimed at establishing a national integrity strategy and action plan. Consultations are under way with officials of the Government of Indonesia, for the purpose of developing a project on building integrity to prevent corruption. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, a project on enhancing judicial integrity is under consideration. In Uganda, an assessment mission was undertaken and a project concept focusing on strengthening the institutional and legal anti-corruption framework has been agreed upon; a project document has been finalized and fund-raising efforts are under way.

58. An expert group meeting on the implementation tools of the global programme against corruption was held in Vienna on 13 and 14 April 2000. The experts provided feedback on the proposed strategies and contents of the programme and presented anti-corruption tools, to be included in the anti-corruption kit. A workshop on integrity in the judiciary was held in Vienna on 15 and 16 April 2000; the workshop was attended by eight chief justices from countries in Africa and Asia.

59. In the context of developing and implementing the projects and activities of the global programme against corruption, the Centre worked in close cooperation with other entities in the United Nations system, such as UNDP, and many international and national non-governmental organizations, such as Transparency International, Gallup International, Information International in Lebanon, the Norwegian Agency for International Development Cooperation (NORAD) and Pro-Democracy in Romania.

60. In addition to the above-mentioned earmarked project funding from the Governments of France, Greece and the United States and from UNDP, funding for some of the activities and staffing of the global programme against corruption has been provided by the Governments of the Netherlands, Norway and the United States.

B. Global programme against trafficking in human beings

61. Further progress has been made in refining and implementing the global programme against trafficking in human beings, launched jointly with UNICRI in March 1999. The programme consists of an integral package of research, technical cooperation and the formulation of an international strategy against trafficking in human beings. The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, provides the normative framework and orientation for the global programme. Given the transnational character of trafficking in human beings, the global programme is aimed at enabling countries of origin, transit and destination to develop joint strategies and effective and efficient criminal justice responses to trafficking in human beings. Based on the Convention and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons and the results of implemented technical assistance, the global programme will contribute to the formulation of a global strategy against trafficking in human beings. The global programme also includes a component involving data collection and analysis, leading to the establishment of a database on trafficking trends and flows.

62. Within the framework of the global programme against trafficking in human beings, four technical cooperation projects are currently under implementation or preparation. The first project was signed in March 2000 with the Government of the Philippines. Project activities carried out so far include the establishment of a national inter-agency coordination mechanism, awareness-raising and training sessions for law enforcement officers, a workshop on improved cooperation between police and prosecutors, preparation of an inventory of relevant legislation and regulations, the testing of a training curriculum developed for consulate staff and social workers overseas and the collection of trafficking-related data.

63. A project in eastern Europe covers the Czech Republic and Poland. A similar project is under consideration for Slovakia. Austria, Finland, Germany and the Netherlands are participating as partners. The project will include assessing the requirements for ratification and implementation of the Protocol to

Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons in the countries covered in the project. Increasing the number of successful prosecutions against traffickers and providing support and protection to victims and witnesses are other important elements of the project.

64. In Brazil, a project has been developed at the request of the Government and is being finalized for implementation; it is expected to begin in the first half of 2001. One of the key objectives of the project is to assess routes and modalities used by organized criminal groups for trafficking in human beings. Project activities include improving the law enforcement response and providing support for victims of trafficking.

65. A project in western Africa is being developed to assess trafficking flow and countermeasures in Benin, Nigeria and Togo and to support Governments in their efforts against trafficking in human beings, including trafficking in women for sexual purposes and trafficking in children; it is believed that the latter are being sold by traffickers as slave labourers.

66. The global programme has also been making contributions to efforts to fight trafficking in humans within other broader crime and drug prevention projects. For example, through the Regional Office for Central Asia of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, it has contributed to the preparation and implementation of an agreement concerning a joint research project in Tajikistan, initiated by the country office in Tajikistan of the International Organization for Migration. Based on the inter-agency agreement, the Regional Office is now able to contribute to inter-agency recommendations concerning the control and prevention of smuggling of migrants and trafficking of people from and through Tajikistan. The programme also contributed to a project of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention on assessing the institutional framework for combating drug trafficking, money-laundering, organized crime, trafficking in humans and corruption in the Dominican Republic.

67. In close cooperation with the government authorities of Italy and Nigeria, UNICRI has developed a project against trafficking in minors and young women from Nigeria to Italy. The project is aimed at gathering relevant empirical data, including information on the criminal networks involved, and strengthening institutional capacity and bilateral co-operation through the implementation of a broad range of activities, involving both criminal justice and non-governmental agencies.

68. In its planning and implementation of the global programme against trafficking in human beings, the Centre for International Crime Prevention continued its cooperation with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. In particular, it cooperated with the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Organization for Migration, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Interpol, the European Union and OSCE.

69. The Forum for Global Action against Trafficking in Persons was organized in Catania, Italy, on 14 December 2000, in collaboration with UNICRI and the Government of Italy, as an ancillary event of the High-level Political Signing Conference for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto. Participants in the Forum identified action needed for the implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons and adopted a set of recommendations on measures to combat trafficking in human beings.

70. A public service announcement on trafficking in human beings was produced by the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to be broadcast by television stations. The announcement was designed to raise global awareness and dispel the myth about women easily finding work abroad in economically better-off countries, thereby exposing the sexual exploitation of trafficked women. Broadcasting stations in several countries have expressed strong interest in the announcement.

71. Funding or pledges of assistance for the activities and projects of the global programme against trafficking in human beings have been received from the Governments of Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and the United States. The Government of Australia has made in-kind contributions. The Government of Brazil is co-financing the project in Brazil.

C. Global programme against transnational organized crime

72. The adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime has opened new perspectives for activities aimed at assisting Member States in combating transnational organized crime, especially the provision of technical assistance through advisory services and field projects, supplemented by data collection, analysis and policy development. Related activities, including the global studies on transnational organized crime, initiated earlier, have been grouped together under the global programme against transnational organized crime.

73. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime provides the normative framework and orientation for the global programme. It will seek to monitor the policies and measures for combating organized crime and assess their effectiveness and efficiency; provide assistance in upgrading national capacities for collecting, analysing and using criminal justice data through the application of comprehensive methodologies; promote public awareness of the existence, causes and gravity of the threats posed by transnational organized crime; facilitate the exchange of information on patterns and trends in transnational organized crime and on successful practices for combating it; and provide technical assistance through advisory services and field projects.

74. The global programme against transnational organized crime will support and supplement the activities of the Centre aimed directly at promoting the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, such as the provision of pre-ratification assistance for States that have signed the Convention. For example, it will contribute to the organization of regional and subregional seminars for that purpose. It is envisaged that the global programme will provide for the conducting of a pre-ratification survey among signatory States, with the aim of assessing current legislation against organized crime in relation to the requirements established by the Convention.

75. The global survey on transnational organized crime was successfully tested in 12 countries (Australia, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States) and one subregion (the Caribbean). Information has been collected on the transnational organized criminal group most active in each of the countries and that subregion. Data on other relevant groups and specific criminal markets were gathered through a network of data providers. The results of the first phase of the survey were evaluated at a seminar held in Turin on 15 September 2000 and co-hosted by UNICRI. The outcome of the workshop was added to the database on transnational organized crime. The survey will be extended to cover additional countries, especially in Central Asia and western Africa.

76. With the help of a group of experts, a kit of best practices will be developed. Consideration will be given to presenting the results of the global survey and the kit to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, when it reviews the implementation of the Convention.

77. A project was launched in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to tackle economic and financial crime through strengthened legal provisions and the establishment of a specialized police unit.

78. In cooperation with UNICRI, a project has been formulated for analysing and assessing the threat posed by Nigerian criminal networks active in four countries of the Economic Community of West African States: Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal. By analysing the strategies and activities carried out by those organized criminal groups, their impact at the national and regional levels will be analysed, future trends will be forecast and concrete measures to prevent and combat organized crime in the region will be suggested.

79. Another project to be implemented will be aimed at analysing and assessing transnational organized crime in five countries in Central Asia: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The project will focus on the identification and mapping of the most relevant criminal networks operating in Central Asia; the analysis of their activities, strategies, organizational structure and transnational connections; and the evaluation of the countermeasures adopted by Governments.

80. Funding or pledges of assistance for the activities and projects of the programme have been received

from the Governments of France, the United Kingdom and the United States.

VI. Other programme activities

A. Promoting standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

81. The Centre for International Crime Prevention continued activities in pursuance of mandates relating to the promotion of the use and application of standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. The following reports on the subject will be before the Commission: report of the Secretary-General on the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/2001/9); and report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty (E/CN.15/2001/10).

B. Preventing terrorism

82. A division of labour has been established between the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention and the Office of Legal Affairs at United Nations Headquarters, according to which the Branch deals with research and technical cooperation while the Office of Legal Affairs deals with legal and normative matters.

83. During the past year, the Terrorism Prevention Branch made progress in its work on the first biennial global survey on terrorism. Major areas of emphasis have so far included drug-linked terrorist organizations and best practices and lessons learned. Furthermore, several specialized databases have been developed, such as those on terrorist incidents and counter-terrorist measures, as input for the survey. The Branch has also engaged in several other research activities, such as case studies on the de-escalation of violence of terrorist organizations. It has also cooperated closely with pertinent research institutions and other actors in the prevention of terrorism. A list of research desiderata was prepared and mailed to academic centres working on the subject of terrorism, in order to encourage research initiatives.

84. The Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention provided input to the Office of Legal Affairs that appeared in the report of the Secretary-General on measures to eliminate international terrorism (A/55/179 and Add.1). It served as a clearing house of information and also disseminated information on its activities by publishing a brochure and launching a web site (www.odccp.org). In addition, it is collaborating with the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council in publishing the proceedings of a conference on countering terrorism through enhanced international cooperation held in Courmayeur, Italy, from 22 to 24 September 2000. The Terrorism Prevention Branch contributed substantially to numerous meetings and conferences. It continued its efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to produce a proposed series of technical cooperation manuals, to be used as tools for training with law enforcement and other appropriate agencies. It also created a "toolbox" of counter-terrorist measures, which it plans to develop further.

C. Collecting and disseminating information

85. The Centre for International Crime Prevention continued its efforts to reinforce its capacity and performance in the collection, analysis and dissemination of relevant data and information. It has published electronically the responses to the Sixth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, presented by variable and by country (accessible at www.uncjin.org/Statistics/WCTS/WECTS6/Publication.pdf). The periodic surveys are the primary vehicle used by the Centre for the collection of statistics on crime trends and criminal justice at the national level. Seventy-five Governments have provided official data on police, prosecution, courts, prisons and resource allocation.

86. The Centre for International Crime Prevention continued to expand its efforts to disseminate information, especially by electronic means, through the Internet-based United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network (UNCJIN). UNCJIN was merged into the site of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (www.odccp.org). The original UNCJIN data will continue to be assessible, without updates, at www.uncjin.org until the end of 2001.

87. During 2000, the UNCJIN site received 294,523 visitors, requesting 73.3 giga-bytes of information. On average, a visitor to the site examined 5.59 documents, whereas during 1999 it had received 27,624 visitors, requesting 4.6 giga-bytes of information, with an average of 3.63 documents examined by the visitors. That indicates that the interest in the site has grown more than 10-fold during the past year, so that it now provides 16 times the amount of information than the year before. The primary interest of visitors has been official documents, such as those relating to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Commission and the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Vienna from 10 to 17 April 2000. Statistics on crime trends ranked second among the topics of interest of the visitors.

88. The *International Review of Criminal Policy* has been redesigned and renamed *Forum on Crime and Society*. *Forum*, which is published twice a year in all official languages of the United Nations, focuses on priority topics covered by the Centre, stimulates expert debate on them and fosters partnerships among scholars. The first issue of *Forum* was published in early 2001.

D. Servicing the global policy forum

89. The Centre for International Crime Prevention continued to support the functioning of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme as a global policy forum. With the support of relevant units in the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, it served as the substantive secretariat for the Tenth Congress. The work of the Tenth Congress was carried out in a high-level segment and two committees. At the four workshops held within the framework of the Tenth Congress, four members of the network of institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme took a lead role: UNICRI; the Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders; the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, affiliated with the United Nations; and the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime. The high-level segment of the Tenth Congress adopted the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice, which was subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000. Details can be found in the report on the Tenth Congress[2] and on the web site of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (www.odccp.org).

90. The Centre also serviced the ninth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held immediately after the Tenth Congress. The Commission at its ninth session gave priority to the conclusions and recommendations of the Tenth Congress (for details, see the report of the Commission on its ninth session[3]). The Centre provided support to the Commission and its bureau in carrying out the strategic management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme. Inter-sessional bureau meetings were held and two inter-sessional briefings for representatives of member States were conducted. A third briefing is to be held prior to the tenth session of the Commission. The Centre serviced the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held during the reporting period.

91. The Centre contributed to the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice that was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (A/55/119). It also contributed to the report of the Secretary-General on the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders that was submitted to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (A/55/156).

92. The Centre served as the substantive secretariat of the High-level Political Signing Conference in Palermo, in December 2000. Five ancillary events were held within the framework of the Signing Conference: (a) meeting on the theme "Prevention strategies against organized crime: the role of non-governmental organizations"; (b) Symposium on the Rule of Law in the Global Village: Issues of Sovereignty and Universality; (c) Forum for Global Action against Trafficking in Persons; (d) Symposium on the Role of Civil Society in Countering Organized Crime; and (e) Seminar on Transnational Organized Crime and the Media. Those events were organized in collaboration with UNICRI and the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council.

VII. Overview of operational activities

93. In 2000, the Centre for International Crime Prevention supported projects with a total budget value of US$ 4,040,694 (see table 1). The Centre continued to focus its technical cooperation activities on combating corruption, transnational organized crime and trafficking in human beings. Considerable progress was made during 2000 in initiating and advancing the implementation of concrete projects at the regional and country levels, especially within the framework of the global programmes in those three areas.

94. Ad hoc projects in other areas of criminal justice, such as juvenile justice and crime prevention, were also supported and carried out. In Lebanon, a project to strengthen the legislative and institutional capacity for juvenile justice is being implemented. A project proposal on juvenile justice has been drawn up for Egypt and is expected to be implemented during 2001. The Centre, together with UNDP, also assisted the South Africa Police Service in formulating two pilot projects to promote crime prevention in schools and the community and in rural areas.

95. In the context of the High-level Political Signing Conference, the Centre initiated preparatory work for the development of a new programme activity in crime prevention aimed at promoting a culture of lawfulness and assisting national and local governments in protecting, particularly through educational and civic programmes, groups at risk of being recruited by organized criminal groups.

96. Synergy between the Centre for International Crime Prevention and UNDCP, the two pillars of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, continued to be developed, while strengthening the identity and recognition of the Centre. A number of joint missions were undertaken with UNDCP; those missions included advisory, fact-finding and project formulation missions to the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Guatemala and countries in western Africa.

97. The Centre continued to turn to the United Nations Office for Project Services for the provision of administrative, financial and other input to support the implementation of a number of projects. That enabled the Centre to utilize the established machinery of the United Nations Office for Project Services for project support, thus avoiding the need to set up its own costly project administration infrastructure.

98. The capacity of the Centre to deliver technical assistance has been enhanced at the operational level through its increased representation at the country and subregional levels. That was achieved through converting selected UNDCP offices into offices of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/24 of 28 July 1998. The representation of the Centre at the field level is made where it is programmatically beneficial to its technical cooperation activities. In 2000, regional offices of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention were established in Thailand, covering south-east Asia; in Egypt, covering northern Africa and the Middle East; and in Brazil, covering member States of the Common Market of the Southern Cone (MERCOSUR) and Chile; and a country office of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention in Bolivia. The Centre is currently represented at six regional and one national field offices. It is anticipated that the UNDCP regional office for western Africa will be converted to an office of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention in 2001, as the Centre's technical cooperation projects in the subregion are finalized.

VIII. Mobilization of resources

99. The contributions and pledges provided to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund during 2000 (see table 2) amounted to $2,997,665, representing a decrease of 10 per cent in contributions in comparison with the previous year; that decrease was a result of a decline in general-purpose contributions.

100. The figure below shows the pattern of contributions over the past five years and the distribution between general-purpose and specific-purpose contributions. The bulk of the specific-purpose contributions were for the three global programmes of the Centre and for supporting the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against

Table 1

Technical cooperation projects supported by the Centre for International Crime Prevention, 2000

(United States dollars)

Country or area	*Project*	*Total budget*	*Role of the Centre*
Benin	Implementation of national anti-corruption strategy	196 100	Funding and executing agency
Hungary	Assessment of corruption in Hungary	175 263	Funding and executing agency
Lebanon	Support for the national anti-corruption strategy	305 551	Funding and executing agency
	Strengthening the legislative and institutional capacity for juvenile justice	754 049	Funding and executing agency
Philippines	Coalitions against trafficking in human beings in the Philippines	219 231	Funding and executing agency
Romania	Institution-building and strengthening of corruption control capacity	325 000	Funding and cooperating agency
South Africa	Mechanisms to counteract domestic violence	660 000	Funding and associate agency
	Measures to counteract organized crime	414 000	Funding and cooperating agency
	Donor coordination in the field of criminal justice	40 000	Funding and executing agency
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Preventing and controlling economic and financial crime	330 000	Funding and executing agency
Eastern Europe (Czech Republic and Poland)	Criminal justice responses to trafficking in human beings	519 348	Funding and executing agency
Western Africa (Benin, Nigeria and Togo)	Preparatory assistance: Elaboration of a project against trafficking in human beings	35 000	Funding and executing agency
Global	United Nations survey on transnational organized crime and related drug trafficking	--[a]	Executing agency; funding (US$ 152,550) provided by UNDCP
Total		**3 973 542**	

[a] Funding (US$ 152,550) provided by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

Table 2

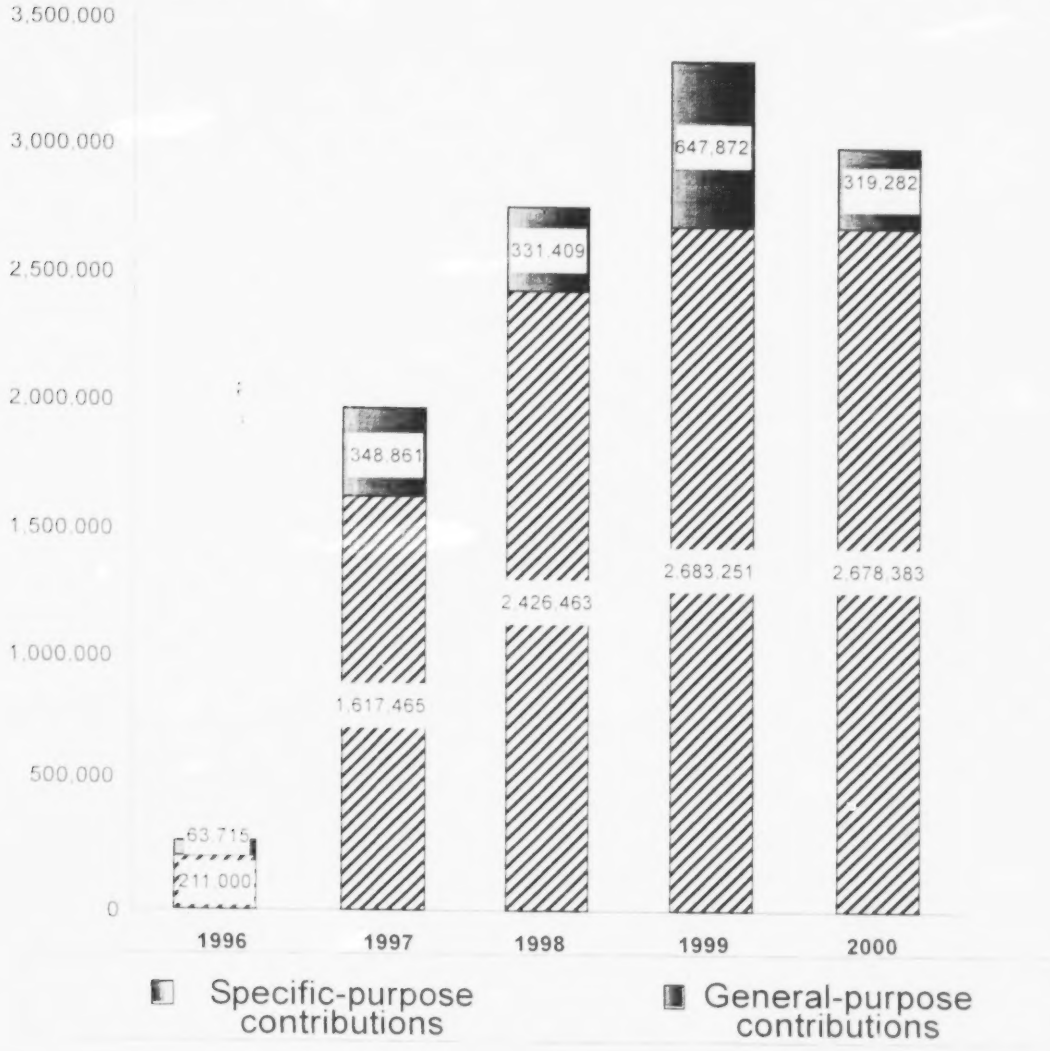
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 2000

(United States dollars)

Country or organization	*Total amount pledged*	*General-purpose funds*	*Special-purpose funds*
Austria	129 054	129 054[a]	-
Belgium	50 000	-	50 000
Canada	76 122	27 027[a]	49 095
Chile	10 000	10 000[b]	-
Greece	30 000	30 000[b]	-
India	3 000	3 000[b]	-
Israel	10 500	10 500[b]	-
Italy	353 333	-	353 333
Japan	500 000	-	500 000
Liechtenstein	3 058	-	3 058
Netherlands	355 594	-	355 594
Norway	298 974	-	298 974
Panama	200	200[b]	-
Republic of Korea	25 000	25 000[b]	-
Singapore	408	408[b]	-
Slovenia	806	806[b]	-
Tunisia	1 881	1 881[b]	-
Turkey	75 000	75 000[b]	-
United Kingdom	94 297	-	94 297
United States of America	750 000	-	750 000
Asia Crime Prevention Foundation	45 847	-	45 847
European Commission	124 510	-	124 510
International Police Association	6 003	6 003[b]	-
FTML[d]	53 675	-	53 675
Others	403	403[b]	-
Total	**2 997 665**	**319 282**	**2 678 383**

[a] Paid.
[b] Not paid.
[c] Paid in part.
[d] France Telecom Mobile Lebanon.

Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, 1996-2000
(United States dollars)



Transnational Organized Crime, mainly to finance the cost of additional sessions that were not included in the programme budget for the biennium 1999-2000 and to enable least developed countries to be represented in the sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee.

101. As can be seen from table 2 the donor base of the Centre continues to consist of a few countries. In 2001, the Centre will pursue efforts to broaden its donor base, promote more generous and sustained contributions and encourage increased general-purpose contributions. Increased contributions, including general-purpose contributions, are urgently needed to enable the Centre to deliver technical assistance and launch proactive initiatives.

IX. Programme questions

102. The General Assembly, in its resolution 55/234, adopted the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, including programme 12 (Crime prevention and criminal justice).

103. The General Assembly, at its fifty-sixth session, will approve the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, including section 14 (Crime prevention and criminal justice). A note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work in crime prevention and criminal justice for the biennium 2002-2003 (E/CN.15/2001/11) will be before the Commission at its tenth session.

Notes

[1] *International Review of Criminal Policy*, Nos. 41 and 42 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.IV.4).

[2] *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10-17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 20* (E/2000/30).